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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

THURSDAY, 3/28/19, 3 PM, Room 308
SB197 HD1, RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE

TESTIMONY

Beppie Shapiro, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair LUKE, Vice-Chair CULLEN, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii **opposes SB197 HD1** that would weaken prohibitions on using campaign funds to make donations to non-profits or to award scholarships.

The danger of allowing such donations is that a recipient organization will either a) support the candidate hoping for such a donation; or b) respond in a subsequent election campaign by supporting the candidate who made the donation. Either alternative subverts the intent of campaign finance law.

SB197 HD1 ignores the threat posed by b) above.

Please do not support SB197 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.